

B-3002 - B-3006

1840-1850/1870's

32-4 W. Montgomery St. (North side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private and public access

This side of W. Montgomery St. includes the Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, the first black church congregation to be established in the Federal Hill area. The Romanesque Revival style church was built in 1848 but the current appearance is the result of remodelings in the late 1860's and 1890's. The facade is now covered with formstone. To the east of the church, at 18 W. Montgomery St. there is a three story high, two bay wide Italianate-style parish house, also now covered with formstone, and to the west of the church, at 32 W. Montgomery St. there is a three story, three bay wide brick Italianate-style combination commercial/residential structure built contemporaneously with the corner building at 735-737 S. Hanover St. At the eastern end of the block there are two pairs of early brick houses dating from the 1840's, which are the only survivors of a group of similar houses that originally lined this side of the street. 8-10 W. Montgomery St. are three story, gable-roofed houses, two bays wide; 6 W. Montgomery St. is a typical two story plus attic, two bay wide brick house, with a two story high, one room deep side addition at 4 W. Montgomery St.

Easement
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3003
MAGI 0430031408

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

20-30 W. Montgomery St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING/S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> XALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original, gable-roofed section of this Romanesque Revival style church was built in 1848 of brick. The central tower section was added after the Civil War. At some later point the facade was covered with formstone.

The church is about 50' wide and occupies a lot 91 1/2' deep. The building is simply designed with a long nave set beneath a gable roof running back perpendicular to the street. Sachse's 1858 Bird's Eye View of Baltimore shows the original church building as having a high basement and three arched windows at the second and third floor levels, but with no corner turrets or central tower. By 1869 the corner turrets have appeared but the central tower is still not in evidence.

Today, the main decorative feature of the church is the central tower, which projects several feet from the main facade. The tower is marked at its center by a large stained glass window set beneath a round arched lintel. Above this tall window there are four narrow rectangular lights set beneath a single narrow round arched window marking the peak of the gable roof behind the tower. The upper portion of the tower is square in shape with a flat roof. There is no steeple. Each face of the tower has three narrow round arched windows filled with blinds. The triple, round arched window design is repeated on the facade of the church, with a row of three tall, narrow windows located on either side of the building flanking the central tower. These windows are filled with stained glass panels. Below them, three rectangular windows of varying sizes, also filled with stained glass, mark the first floor level of the facade. All of the sills of the various windows are of rustic stonework, a part, however, of the formstone covering.

The entrance has a wide round arched lintel supported by "stone" piers that are actually a part of the entrance framing, but which have elaborately carved leafy stone capitals. The doorway lintel, and those of the round-arched windows, give the appearance of cut stonework, but in actuality are merely formstone, as are the bands of rustic "stone" trim that mark the second and third floor levels of the facade. The deep "stone" band marking the cornice of the gable-roofed nave is also formstone. Two flat roofed corner turrets frame the nave space. The basement area of the facade is faced with cut stone and the church property is framed by a handsome cast iron fence.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-3003

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1848 (orig.)/rem. 1865-68 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is of great significance to the Federal Hill community as being the first black church established in the area. The congregation has continuously worshipped at this site since 1848. The church plays an important role in the life of the black community of the area and its leaders work actively to better the living conditions and social welfare of the area's black residents.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

STREET & NUMBER

6/79
TELEPHONE1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Ruxton

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

S. HANOVER

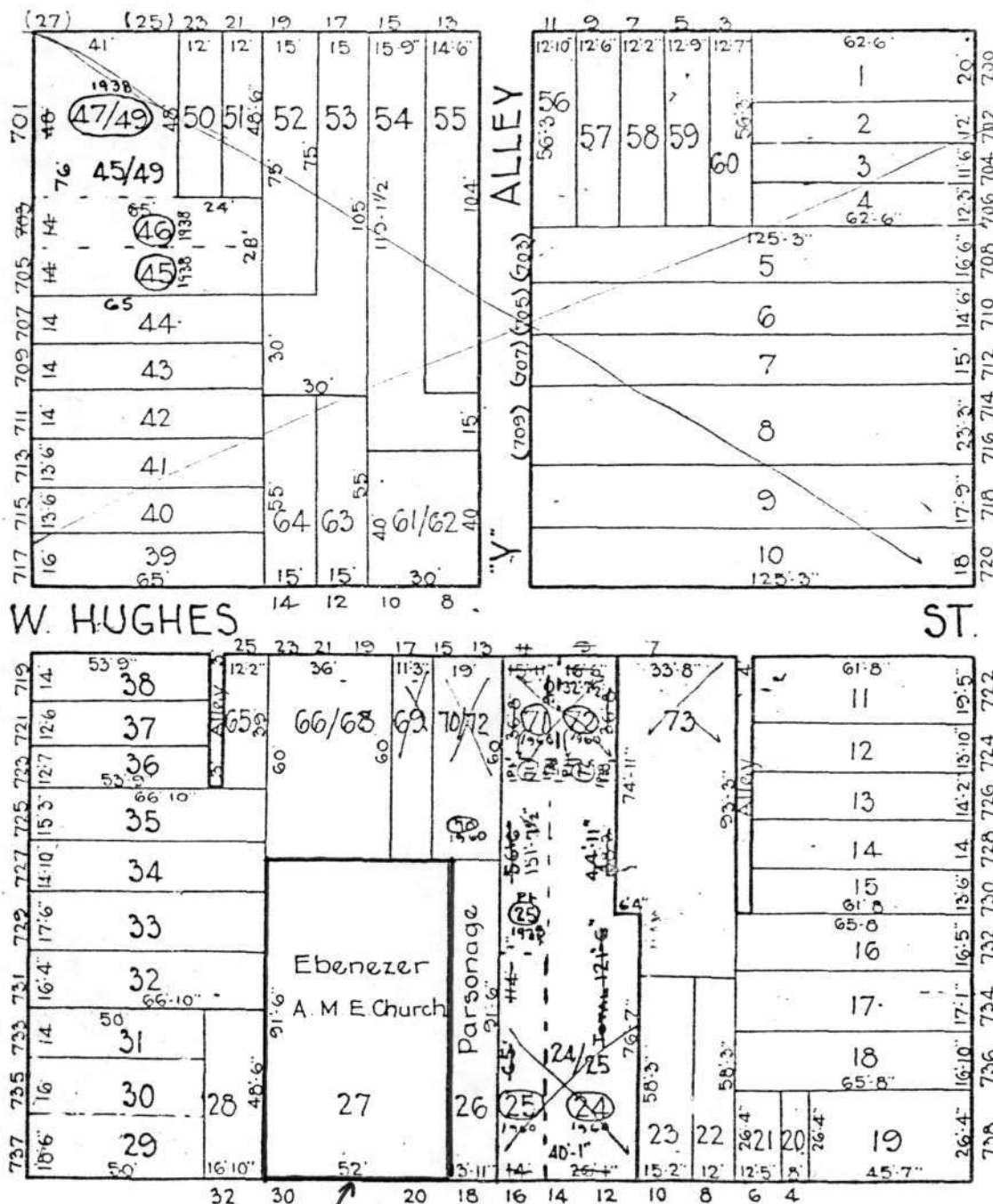
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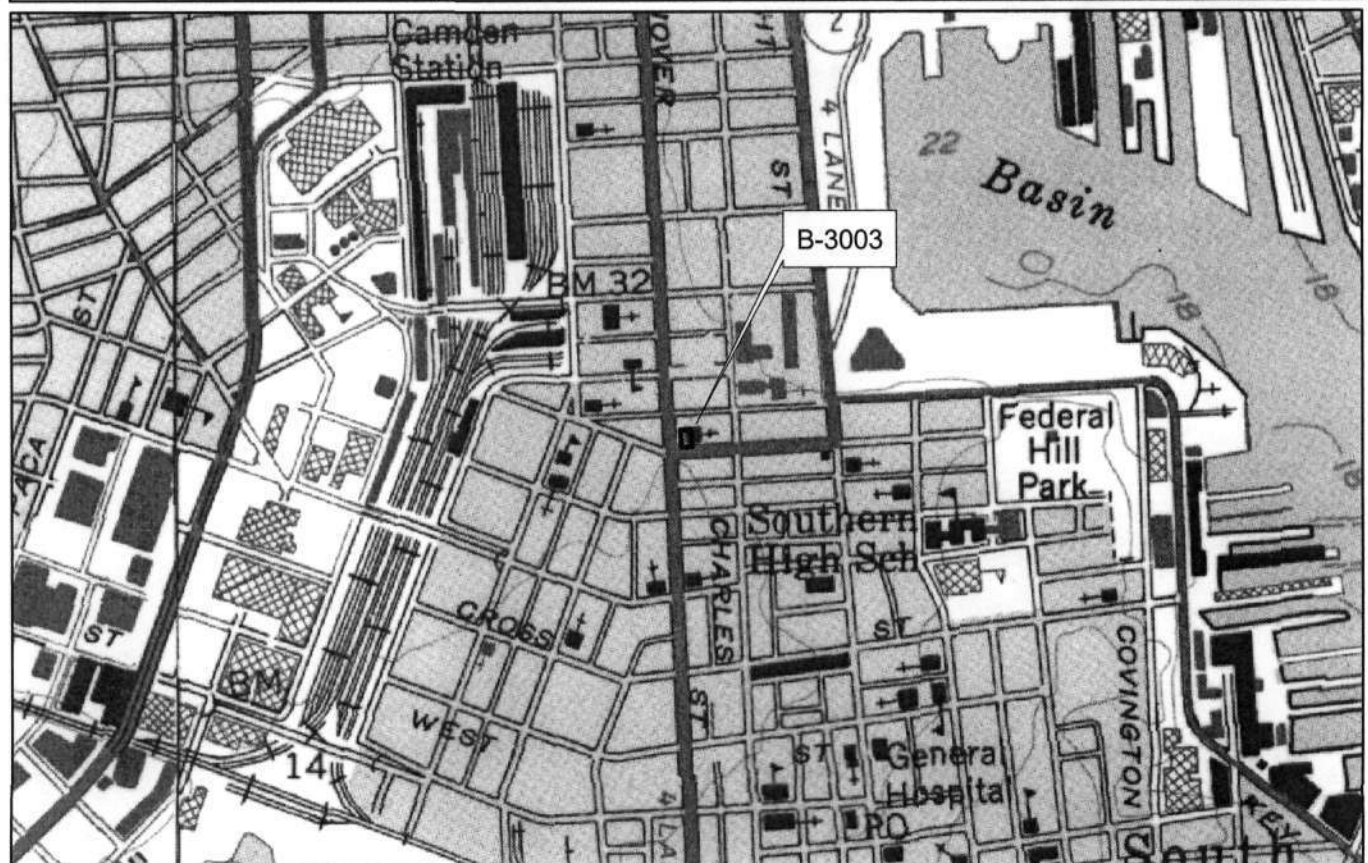
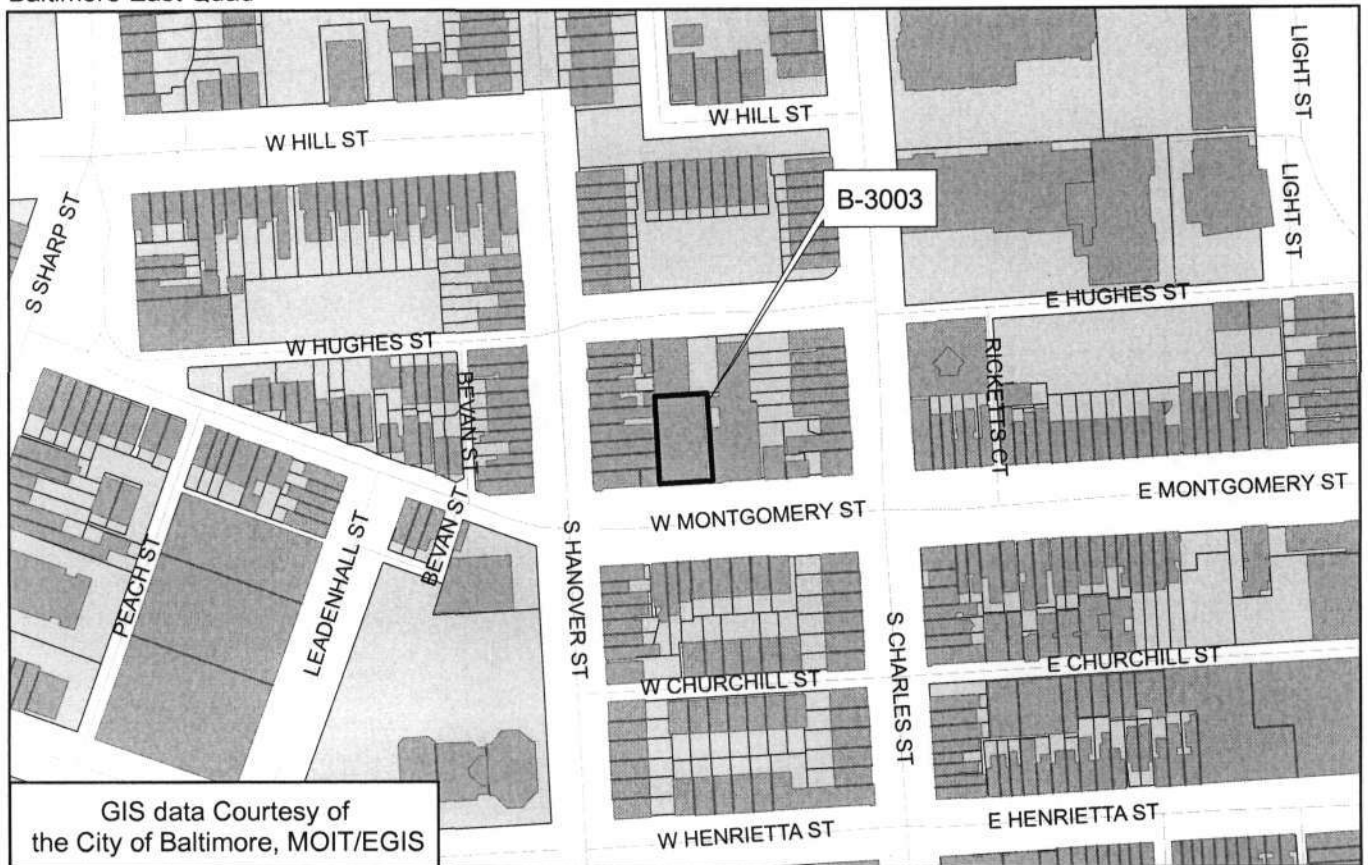
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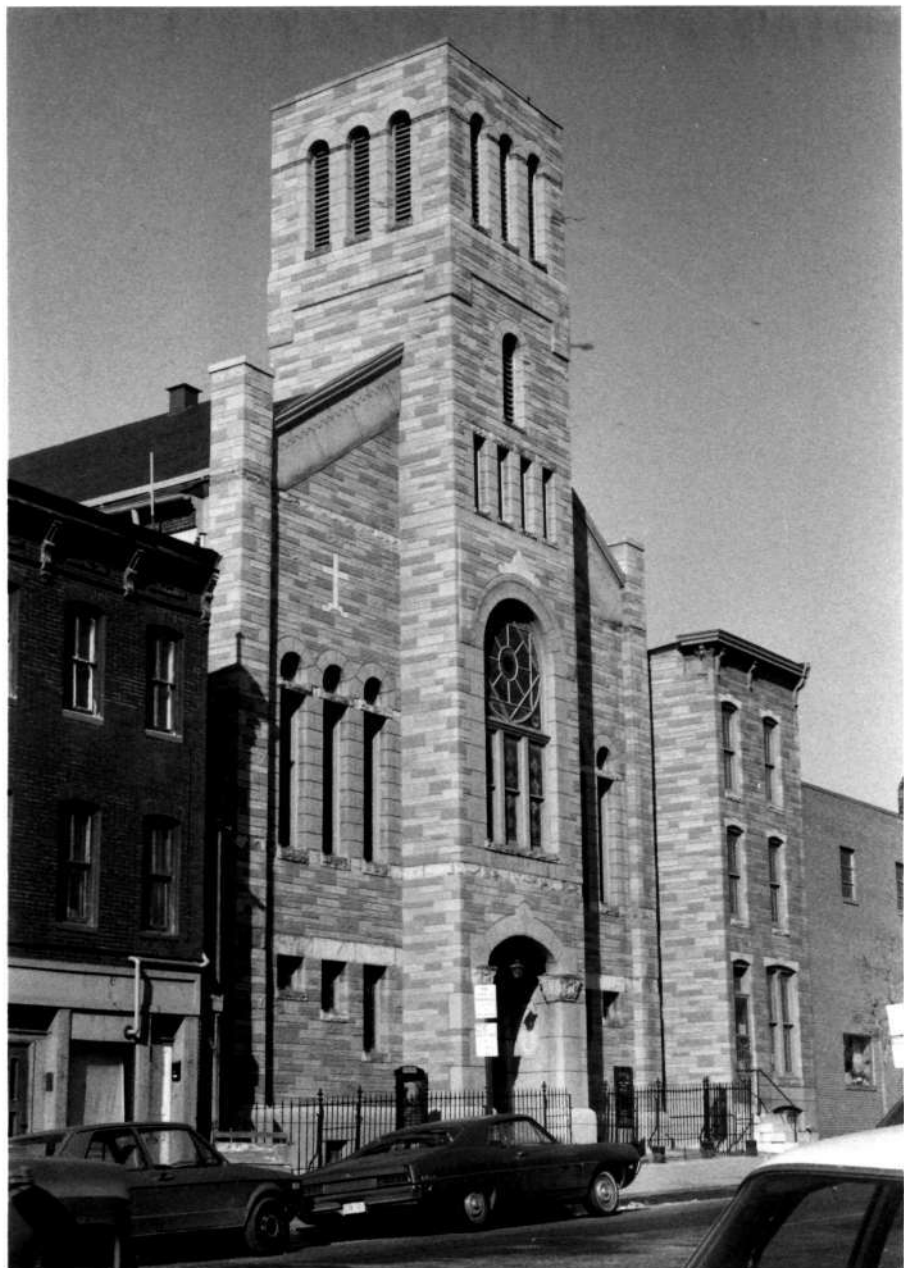


B-3003

W. MONTGOMERY

B-3003
Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church
20-30 W. Montgomery Street
Block 0895 Lot 027
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





B-3003

Ebenezer A.M.E.

Church

M.E.H.

4/79

South elevation